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Voluntary _ Public

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Customs Union Food Technical Regulations in Force as of 1 July 2013

Report Categories:

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety FAIRS Subject Report

Grain and Feed

Oilseeds and Products

Beverages

Food Processing Ingredients

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Report Highlights:

On July 1, 2013, the following seven Russia-Kazakhstan-Belarus Customs Union (CU) technical regulations related to food products come into force: "On Food Safety" (TR TS 021/2011); "On Safety of Grain" (TR TS 015/2011); "Food Product Labeling" (TR TS 022/2011); "Technical regulation on Fat and Oil Products" (TR TS 024/2011); "Technical regulation on Fruit and Vegetable Juice Products" (TR TS 023/2011); "On Safety of Certain Types of Specialized Food Products Including Therapeutic and Preventive Dietary Food" (TR TS 027/2012); and, "Safety Requirements for Food Additives, Flavorings and Technological Aids" (TR TS 029/2012.)

General Information

On July 1, 2013, the following seven Russia-Kazakhstan-Belarus Customs Union (CU) technical regulations related to food products come into force: "On Food Safety" (TR TS 021/2011); "On Safety of Grain" (TR TS 015/2011); "Food Product Labeling" (TR TS 022/2011); "Technical regulation on Fat and Oil Products" (TR TS 024/2011); "Technical regulation on Fruit and Vegetable Juice Products" (TR TS 023/2011); "On Safety of Certain Types of Specialized Food Products Including Therapeutic and Preventive Dietary Food" (TR TS 027/2012); and, "Safety Requirements for Food Additives, Flavorings and Technological Aids" (TR TS 029/2012.)

The CU technical regulation "On Food Safety" is the so-called "horizontal," or general regulation, which sets minimum requirements for the safety of a wide range of food products, including, but not limited to, specialized food products, drinking water, alcoholic products (including beer and beer-based drinks), soft drinks, juice and fat products, biologically active additives (BAA), food additives and flavorings, and other food products. At the same time, last minute amendments to the Decision of the Customs Union Commission, which were enacted by the CU technical regulation "On Food Safety," excluded meat, meat products, milk, dairy products, fish, and fish products from the scope of this technical regulation.

The other six CU technical regulations coming into force on July 1, 2013, (i.e. "On Safety of Grain;" "Food Product Labeling;" "Technical regulation on Fat and Oil Products;" "Technical regulation on Fruit and Vegetable Juice Products;" "On Safety of Certain Types of Specialized Food Products Including Therapeutic and Preventive Dietary Food;" and, "Safety Requirements for Food Additives, Flavorings and Technological Aids" are "vertical," or specific, and they clarify the standards of the general technical regulation as well as specific procedures for assessment and confirmation of compliance for the relevant products.

The only other existing CU technical regulation related to food products is the technical regulation "On Safety of Packaging," which has been in force since July 1, 2012.

While all of the CU technical regulations mentioned in this report were adopted prior to Russia's entry into the World Trade Organization on August 22, 2012, they were subjected to the procedures of public discussion and provide for transitional periods.

For unofficial English translations of the CU technical regulations mentioned above please see the following GAIN reports:

- RS1233 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Food Safety
- RS1250 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Safety of Grain
- RSATO1211Customs Union Technical Regulations on Food Products Labeling
- RS1326 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Fat and Oil Products
- RS1334 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Juice
- RS1340 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Specialized Foods
- RS1338 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Food Additives
- RS1253 Customs Union Technical Regulation on Safety of Packaging